

For The Evening Telegraph.

OUR SOLDIERS' GRAVES.

BY WILLIAM HIGGINS, Esq.

You'll strew their graves with flowers fair, The richest flowers of spring, To the green sod where lie the brave Our fraternal tribute bring.

OUR RELIGIOUS COLUMN.

Dressing for Church.

The best bred people of every Christian country but our own avoid all personal display when engaged in worship and prayer.

We shall leave our gawgawed devotees to reconcile humiliation in worship with vanity of dress.

It must be left to the conscience of the bedizened worshipper, aided by the skillful casuistry of her theological director.

The church being the only place on this side of the grave designed for the rich and the poor to meet together in equal prostration before God.

It is in most of the churches of Europe, where the beggar in rage and wretchedness and the wealthiest and most eminent, whose appropriate sobriety of dress leaves them without mark of external distinction, kneel down together, equalized by a common humiliation, before the only Superior Being.

The adoption of a more simple attire for church on the part of the rich in this country would have the effect, certainly not of diminishing their own personal piety, but probably of increasing the disposition for religious observance on the part of the poor.

Want of fine dress would no longer, as it now is, be the common motive for staying away from the houses of worship, and these would become the common places of assemblage, as on the continent of Europe, for the poor and the rich.

The result would not only be favorable to general piety but to social harmony, since the union of all classes on one day of the week, at least, would tend to level all artificial barriers of separation.

"The distinctions of civil life," says Paley, in one of his most admired passages, "are almost always insisted upon too much and urged too far.

Whatever, therefore, conduces to restore the level, by qualifying the dispositions which grow out of great elevation or depression of rank, improves the character on both sides.

Now things are made to appear little by being placed beside what is great. In which manner superiorities that occupy the whole field of the imagination will vanish, or shrink to their proper diminutiveness, when compared with the distance by which even the highest of men are removed from the Supreme Being, and this comparison is naturally introduced by all acts of joint worship.

If ever the poor man holds up his head, it is at church; if ever the rich man views him with respect, it is there; and both will be the better, and the public profited, the oftener they meet in a situation in which the consciousness of dignity in the one is tempered and mitigated, and the spirit of the other erected and confirmed."

—Harper's Bazar.

CITY RELIGIOUS MATTERS.

BAPTIST.

—Rev. Justin D. Fulton, Pastor of the Tremont Temple Baptist Church, Boston, Mass., will lecture at Concert Hall, at 10 o'clock, on Tuesday, June 2, 1869, in aid of the Spruce Street Mission. Subject: "Whom shall we trust?"

—A correspondence of the Presbyterian, presenting to the friends and the public so eminent and assuring a speaker as the Rev. J. D. Fulton they can assure all who will favor them with their presence a rich and rare intellectual treat.

—A very interesting Sabbath School service is expected at the Tabernacle Baptist Church to-morrow afternoon, at 8 o'clock, when a missionary meeting will be held, each class bringing a nosegay of flowers.

—The evening sessions of the Institute at Upland for general purposes have been found very serviceable. At these meetings the brethren discuss questions suggested by their own experience as pastors; comparing views, and receiving the best methods of performing it. Frequent devotional meetings are important, in order that the institute may not degenerate into a mere intellectual exercise, and in order that the brethren may be helped by their mutual faith and their united prayer.

—Mrs. Parham, formerly of the Tenth Church of this city, is now on a visit here soliciting aid to build a meeting house at Lincoln, Delaware.

—The receipts of the American Baptist Publication Society, located at Philadelphia, for the year amounting to \$273,160-65.

PRESBYTERIAN.

—At a late meeting of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, after a full examination, the Rev. Henry B. Ensworth, formerly pastor of the Plymouth Congregational Church, Pittsburg, Pa., was received as a member of Presbytery.

The new church at Providence, Montgomery county, Pa., under the pastoral care of the Rev. H. S. Rodenbush, will be dedicated on Thursday next, June 2. Services to begin at 10 o'clock A. M. The occasion is expected to be a reunion of many ministers and friends united to the congregation and to each other by old ties.

The annual meeting of the Board of Education will be held at their rooms, No. 907 Arch street, on Friday, June 11, at noon. Officers of the Board to be chosen.

The Mothers' Monthly Concert of Prayer will be held on Wednesday, June 2, at 3 o'clock, at Dr.

stryker's church, corner of Broad and Green streets, Philadelphia. Mothers are invited to come and bring their children.

—The Woodland Church, West Philadelphia, has received a lot of trees of forty-second and thirty-third streets, on which they will erect a fine edifice.

—Rev. A. N. Hollifield has been dismissed by the Philadelphia Fourth Presbytery to the Philadelphia Third Presbytery.

—The Third Presbyterian Church of this city collected the sum of \$21,441 for different purposes during the year.

—Mr. H. R. Lincoln has been elected as Superintendent of Dr. Sheppard's (Bartonwood street) Church.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL.

—A Fair and Festival will commence on the 14th proximo, in the new Twentieth Street M. E. Church, preceded by religious services the day before, in which Bishop Simpson, J. Walker Jackson, A. Wallace, and others will participate.

—Rev. R. W. Humphries, of this city, on the occasion of the coronation of the late King of Saxony, made an address upon the moral utility of the spectacle of the founding of an edifice for the worship of Jehovah, which was distinguished by its beauty of conception and grandeur of rhetoric, and made a very fine impression. Rev. Mr. Fernley next presented, in a very forcible and eloquent manner, the claims of the church as the church of the people, the benefits of which were free and open to all. He then appealed to the liberality of all for aid in the enterprise, and urged his hearty encouragement by all who loved their country, whose welfare, he said, depended more than anything else upon the sacred influence of the Church, and to his appeal the noblest and most noble response was given in a collection far beyond the expectation of the pastor or trustees of the church.

—Bishop Simpson will preach to-morrow in the church Sixth and Arch streets, for which the Pastor, Rev. A. Atwood, makes an energetic appeal for aid.

—Rev. Andrew Manstap has been officiating with great success recently at Salem, N. C.

—A committee has been appointed from the reorganization of the Philadelphia City Mission.

CATHOLIC.

—A splendid new organ has just been completed for St. Malach's Church, Eleventh street, above Master (Rev. John Kelly), by Messrs. Knapp & Co., and a public trial will be given to the new instrument, followed by a grand sacred concert, on the evening of the 10th of June. The instrument is 24 feet high, 12 feet deep, and 26 feet long. It has 41 stops, 18 keys, the pedals are full two octaves, from C to C two.

—The Wesleyan Methodist Church of this city conferred the Sacrament of Confirmation on four hundred and sixty persons last Sunday at St. Michael's Church.

—The festival at the new Theological Seminary of St. Charles Borromeo, on Thursday, in aid of St. John's Orphan Asylum, was a most successful and creditable affair.

—Extensive preparations are making for the commencement of the La Salle College, at the Academy of Music, on the 24th of June. Brother Oliver, the Director of the Christian Brotherhood at the Academy, will be the principal speaker, and will deliver a discourse, which will be, we predict, a most creditable and well-managed affair.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

—The Pennsylvania State Sunday School Convention, Rev. G. A. Peltz, President, will hold its annual session at Williamsport, Pa., on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday of next week. Arrangements for the accommodation of those who may attend have been made on a liberal scale.

SUMMARY OF GENERAL CHURCH NEWS.

PRESBYTERIAN.

—In the Sunday-school of the Howard Presbyterian Church, San Francisco, a class of Japanese young men, who are much interested in the instruction they receive.

—An Irish Presbyterian missionary in India writes: "The hopelessness of keeping up Hinduism is becoming every day more manifest to the Hindus themselves. A few days ago, a high-caste Brahmin had come to see me acknowledged, in even a more unqualified way than I have seen the facts of the Hindu religion, that he has given up his faith in his religion. He lamented the tendency to utter cheerless unbelief, which he thinks is increasing. In addition to the fact that he has given up his faith, he has five hundred communicants, and a nominal Christian community of sixteen hundred persons. Four thousand five hundred persons are daily coming under the influence of Christian teachers through the various educational institutions of the city."

—The Presbyterian Banner says: "Formerly it was necessary for all our foreign missionaries to sail from New York, Philadelphia, or Boston, in order to reach their fields of labor. But the completion of the great direct route to the Atlantic by the Pacific has changed all this. Henceforth missionaries to Siam, Japan, India, and China will take shipping from San Francisco, and will be able to reach their fields of labor, and to be sustained by the various educational institutions of the city."

—A number of Old School presbyteries have voted against union during the past year. The American Presbyterian says that 26 out of 111 have voted for union, 55 either adhere to the old basis or accept the amendments, and two require a vote of three-fourths of the Assembly. The fact that 26 of all the presbyteries in both branches, and are then to unite on the standard alone. Thirty presbyteries are yet to be heard of.

—Lincoln, the capital of Nebraska, two years old, with two thousand inhabitants, a Presbyterian Church (O. S.) was organized on the 4th inst. The same chamber is the place of meeting for the present.

—The Presbyterian says that both Princeton and Allegheny Seminaries have lost patronage on account of their location in the city of Princeton. Princeton had 156 theological students; now it has 107. In 1862 Allegheny had 156, while now it has but 72. The scholarships in Princeton furnish a support for more than half its students. On the other hand, the Presbyterian Seminary in Chicago has greatly increased its number of students of late, certainly not having lost favor on account of union.

—A German Presbyterian church of sixteen members was organized by a committee of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, in Lancaster, on Sunday, the 21st inst. Two elders were elected. The ministerial care of the Rev. J. J. Weiss, a licentiate recently received under care of the Presbytery. The American church at that point, organized less than four years ago, numbers fifty-six members, and is at present in a highly prosperous condition.

—A correspondence of the Presbyterian, writing about the proceedings of the Presbytery of Roanoke, says:—"The pastoral relation of the Rev. John M. Kirkpatrick to the church of Danville was dissolved, after a settlement of fifteen years. It is hoped that Mr. Kirkpatrick will not leave the bounds of the Presbytery. There is a prospect of his being settled in a neighborhood where some families of sound Old School Presbyterians from the North have recently purchased land, and are desirous of establishing a church and congregation."

—In East Hanover Presbytery, in Virginia, the erection of a new church edifice in Charles City county; the repair of others in Nottingham and Henrico; the re-organization of the mission church at a great advance in the fine structure of the United Church in Richmond; the completion of the large church in Norfolk; and other important events have been made certain during the past year.

BAPTIST.

—The Treasurer of the Missionary Union of the Baptist Church reports the donations for March at \$100,000, and for the year at \$1,000,000. There was an indebtedness at the beginning of the year of \$30,000. The expenditures for the year closed amount to \$180,000. The receipts will therefore exceed the expenses of the year by about \$820,000, and so reduce the present indebtedness to \$40,000. This, it is said, has been accomplished by rigid economy, and by refusing to listen to many urgent appeals for reinforcement and enlargement.

—The University of Georgia, is reported to be in a very flourishing condition. The assets of the university are valued at \$150,000, but the convention resolved to appoint an agent to secure at least \$100,000 more.

—Dr. Jeffrey has baptized one hundred since his recent entrance upon his pastorate in Cincinnati. Ohio. The revival preaching commenced about that time.

—Rev. A. Furman, formerly of the Tenth Church, on the 24th inst., "Eight more persons were welcomed to membership with us yesterday—four by baptism. Two, a husband and wife, were baptized on the 16th inst., and the other two previously."

—A correspondence of the Banner and Chronicle says:—"Quite a ripple is being caused just now upon the otherwise rather quiet stream of Chicago Baptist affairs, by the recent conversion to the Baptist faith of Rev. H. W. Woods, late pastor of St. Mark's Episcopal Church, in this city. Mr. Woods preached a sermon in the Second Baptist Church on Sunday evening last, in which he made a statement of his reasons for his change of views. At the close of the sermon he was baptized by the Pastor, Rev. Mr. Goodspeed."

—A correspondence of the Banner and Chronicle says:—"Our work is every month increasing in interest and importance, and it is more than can be done in a month at present. Yet I find it difficult to get brethren, in some of our associations, to take sufficient interest in looking after destitute places within their own bounds. I frequently have requests

for personal labor in different parts of the State at the present time. I myself to the work of organizing schools. Five have been secured this month, and grants made to the amount of sixty-two dollars. I have preached or lectured twenty-four times, and held two institutes, and seven children's meetings, during the past month."

CONGREGATIONAL.

—The Broadway Church, in Chelsea, Mass., have purchased a lot and are about to build a new meeting-house.

—The Maverick Church, near Boston, vote to exchange their choir for a voluntary one, which will be held on Sunday next.

—The Congregational church in Pittsfield, Mass., Dr. Todd pastor, has voted to build a new lecture-room, and to hold a series of lectures.

—The Congregational church in West Newton, VI., have been holding meetings in the neighboring school districts, in one of which fifteen conversions have resulted.

—Three of the Congregational ministers of Maine have been appointed county superintendents of education in the State of Maine, to-wit: Rev. G. W. Hathaway, of Topsham, for Somerset; and Rev. W. T. Sleeper, of Sherman, for Arrowsic.

—The citizens of South Adams, Mass., are deeply engaged in church building enterprise. The Congregational church is nearly completed, at a cost of \$20,000, while a description of \$15,000 for a new Episcopal church, and another of \$10,000 for an Episcopal church, are already secured. A little Church Union would have saved a large fraction of this.

—The "Salem Congregational Church" was organized in Lowndes county, Miss., as long ago as 1842, and is still the only church of its order in the State. It has always been a vigorous and active church, with a membership of forty-nine and eighty Sabbath-school scholars, white and black.

—The Association of Kansas met in Lawrence, May 13. During the year there have been no general revivals, as in the year before; but the churches have been strengthened, a large number being re-organized, and many new churches have been organized. Twelve ministers have been added to the force at work. It was reported that the assets of the Washburn College amount to \$20,000, and that a free school has been opened in its place, fixed at \$30,000. A resolution was adopted, based on the inability of the Home Missionary Society to raise the necessary funds, and urging a general convention of the Northwest to devise, in connection with that society, some more efficient method of securing funds and forwarding the work.

METHODIST.

—The Wesleyan Methodists of England have a systematic plan for doing mission work in the army and navy.

—The Sunday School Convention called by the St. Louis County Sunday School Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, was held on Thursday morning, at half-past ten, in the First M. E. Church, South, corner of Eighth street and Washington avenue.

—A meeting of influential members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Manhattan, N. Y., was held on Monday evening of last week, when it was decided to greet a handsome paragon and lecturer from the West Indies, on the 24th inst. This will be the first Episcopal tour around the world.

—An interesting correspondence has passed between the Methodist bishops of the North and South in reference to a union of their two bodies. The correspondence occurred in 1847, growing out of a rule forbidding any officer of the Church to own slaves. One of the Southern bishops became a Unitarian, and by the death of one of his wife's relatives, and refused to part with them. The Southern churches then separated on that question. At this time the negotiations were opened by the Northern bishops, as those of the South felt precluded from doing so by the manner in which their delegates had once before been treated. The Southern bishops now reply that the time for union has not yet come, as there is not that concord of feeling which must precede organic union. They also take occasion to complain of the conduct of the Northern bishops in those places, who have invited their societies and taken possession of their houses of worship. On the whole, the negotiations have been opened by the Northern bishops, and it must be years before a union is effected.

EPISCOPAL.

—An opinion has been given by three eminent English barristers, that no tribunal at present exists before which Bishop Colenso can be tried in case he is deemed guilty of an ecclesiastical offence, or of alleged advocacy of opinions not in accordance with the doctrines held by the Church of England.

—Rev. E. C. Boies, of Portland, has accepted a call to the Rectory of the Episcopal Church of the Holy Trinity, in that city.

—Among the petitioners that the Milwaukee Library Association would open its library on Sunday, was Bishop Atkins, of Wisconsin.

—Miss Lavinia Farham, of North Andover, Mass., has presented a beautiful communion service of solid silver to the evangelical church of that place. The service is intended as a memorial of friends who have lately died.

—An exchange says that Bishop Odenheimer, of New Jersey, desires the opportunity to place his hands on the head of a young lady to confirm her, because she were false hair.

—The Rev. Randall, Bishop of Colorado, is soon to visit the Territory of Colorado, in order to make a tour of inspection.

—The Rev. Marshall B. Smith, who lately left the Episcopalians and joined the Reformed Church, has addressed a long letter to Bishop Odenheimer, of New Jersey, giving the reasons which led him to make a change.

—Bishop Whitehouse, of Illinois, has followed the example of Bishop Colenso, in resigning his office, and depositing one of his rectors from the ministry of the Church. But, as in Mr. Smith's case, Rev. W. H. Woods had previously resigned his position, and had joined the Baptist.

—The Protestant Episcopal Board of Missions met at Trinity Church, Newark, New Jersey, on Tuesday morning. Bishop Littlejohn, of Long Island, presided, and opened the meeting with a brief address. The subject for discussion was the need of Divine help in pushing forward the work of missions. Bishop Littlejohn, in his address, said that the American churches, as a whole, were doing well, and followed by the Rev. Drs. Haight, Porter, Gaidault, and Hall. In the evening, the Rev. Dr. Haight and the Rev. Dr. Naton, of Geneva, delivered missionary addresses at Trinity Church.

—There has been a long interregnum in the regular line of succession of the bishopric of Montreal, owing to a deadlock between the lay members and lay deputies, who met six months ago to elect one who should be a successor to the late bishop and metropolitan of Canada. The lay members of the Synod had set their hearts on one or two, but in the exercise of their lordship, the bishops refused to nominate one of them. They nominated all of their own number, and the election of one of the bishops; but would not nominate him nor the Dean of Montreal. The clerical deputies to this Synod several times gave a majority to their lordship's nominees; but the lay delegates refused to consent, and at last the Synod adjourned to meet this month. Some what disturbed, as it seems, by a bill brought before the legislature to allow, in case of vacancy, the color Synod next in rank to the Dean of Montreal, to perform all the offices of a bishop, their lordships at the adjourned meeting yielded so far as to nominate one out of their own number, and to elect him as metropolitan of Canada. The lay members of the Synod had set their hearts on one or two, but in the exercise of their lordship, the bishops refused to nominate one of them. They nominated all of their own number, and the election of one of the bishops; but would not nominate him nor the Dean of Montreal. The clerical deputies to this Synod several times gave a majority to their lordship's nominees; but the lay delegates refused to consent, and at last the Synod adjourned to meet this month. 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